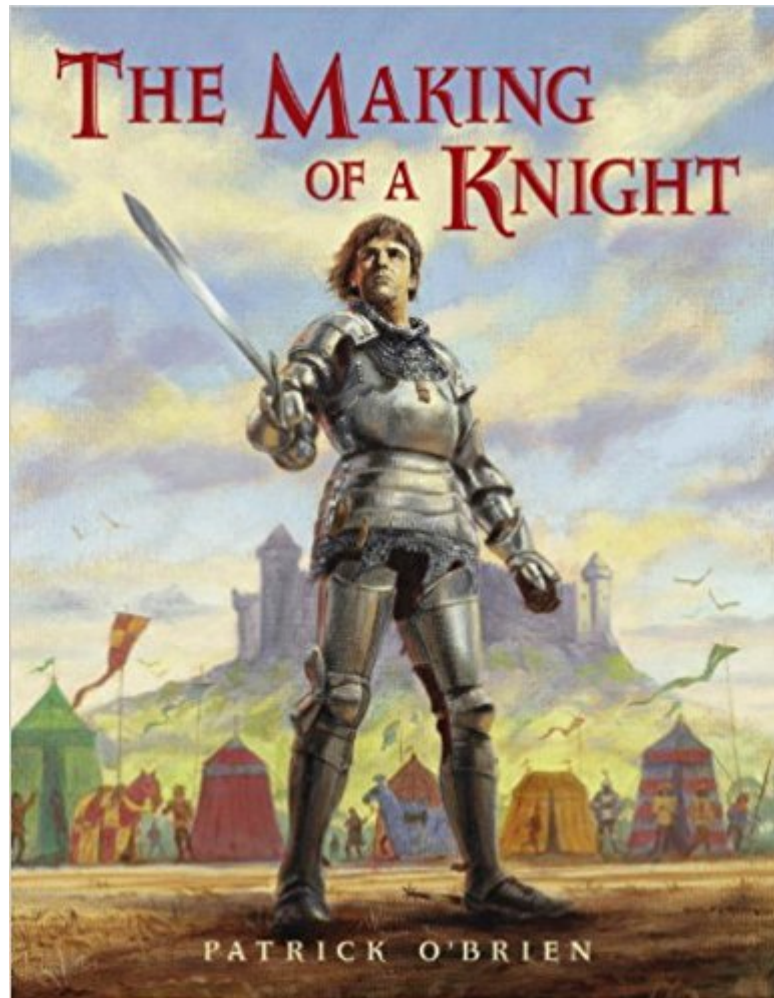




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# The Making Of A Knight



## Synopsis

Seven-year-old James wants to be a brave and noble knight like his father. He dreams of the day that he too will wear the golden spurs that symbolize knighthood. But before his dreams are realized, James must work for seven years as a page and for seven more as a squire, learning to ride, hunt, and fight.

## Book Information

Lexile Measure: 0760 (What's this?)

Paperback: 32 pages

Publisher: Charlesbridge (July 1, 1998)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 088106355X

ISBN-13: 978-0881063554

Product Dimensions: 8.6 x 0.1 x 11 inches

Shipping Weight: 5.6 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.4 out of 5 stars 22 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #47,248 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #27 in [Books > Children's Books > Literature & Fiction > Historical Fiction > Medieval](#) #39 in [Books > Children's Books > Literature & Fiction > Historical Fiction > Europe](#) #55 in [Books > Children's Books > Literature & Fiction > Historical Fiction > Military & Wars](#)

Age Range: 6 - 9 years

Grade Level: 1 - 4

## Customer Reviews

O'Brien (illus. of *A Pirate's Life for Me!*) travels back to the age of chivalry, tracing the gradual metamorphosis of an English boy from lowly seven-year-old page to 14-year-old squire to a knight at 21. Despite the workmanlike prose, the narrative form works well here to hold interest and provide cohesiveness to the many nuggets of information served up. Readers learn about tournaments, feasts, 15th-century manners and customs, and the training in archery, sword-fighting and horsemanship (as well as in reading, writing and music) typically required of an aspiring knight. O'Brien crafts an intriguing visual mix, alternating full-page oil paintings with smaller vignettes and captioned close-ups of horses, weaponry, falcons and the like. The artist uses light and shadow to good advantage, creating high drama (e.g., shafts of sunlight stream through an unseen window onto the kneeling youth as he is knighted), and he invests the pages with a sense of movement,

from banners and flags streaming in the wind to the dust kicked up by thundering hooves. A robust blend of pageantry, derring-do and a wee bit of romance. All ages. Copyright 1998 Reed Business Information, Inc. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Kindergarten-Grade 4-Readers follow young Sir James to knighthood in this informative picture book. He begins his journey at age seven as a page, working his way up to squire and, after proving himself brave in battle, a knight. Children step into the world of the 1400s, complete with kings, queens, ladies, castles, and silken flags flying. As the boy learns about serving the king, chivalry, weapons, and suiting up for battle, youngsters are treated to captionlike asides that add details on life in the Middle Ages. This book has it all: battles, lavish dinners, jousting, and even romance. It is generously illustrated with detailed oil paintings. O'Brien has done his research; the story and illustrations fittingly portray England of yore. One minor protest: female characters haven't much of a role in this book other than as romantic objects. Still, youngsters clamoring for tales of knights will be pleased to find this accessible volume and may be encouraged to do further reading. Angela J. Reynolds, West Slope Community Library, Portland, OR Copyright 1998 Reed Business Information, Inc.

This story tells the highlights of a boy's life as he trains to be a knight. First, he trains as a page, and then a squire. The pages are covered in large, full-color pictures, which are lovely; the story, though is a bit basic. Still, it's not a bad overview of the life of a medieval knight. In the book, the squire has to spend the night in a church before becoming a knight. The book says that he is thinking about the responsibilities of knighthood; my understanding is that this vigil was more religious, and the knight was supposed to be praying. So that feels a little unrealistically secular. Depending on your viewpoint, this may be a negative or a positive.

This is a lovely "first book" for reading about knights. Lovely art work.

My son loves this book and so do I! He's only four but wants to be a knight and loves all the great information and lovely drawings of the medieval armor, swords, castles and horses. It's not a short read, but balances story and content. This is by far the best book on the middle ages for this age. We're buying more for his friends' birthday gifts!

We purchased this book for a homeschool unit on knights. It was a good combo of story and

information if you are looking for education. Probably would not suit your needs if you are looking for a "reading for pleasure" book, but was great for my son who prefers non fiction.

I picked this up on a whim because I am a Patrick O'Brian fan (think Master and Commander, etc). The author of The Making of a Knight spells his name differently, but he has a similar ability as a writer. Although I've been an customer since the early 1990s, this is the first product I've ever reviewed. This book is that good! It's the kind of book your kids or grandkids will want to have read to them over and over. Great story; beautiful artwork. Nicely done! And it doesn't hurt that you'll enjoy reading it too.

So many true facts in the midst of a story- held my kids attention- ages 8, 5, 3- great book!

My 3-year-old son loves this book!!

GREAT story and pictures.

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